

WASHINGTON.

Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable.

TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 1854.

INSULAR POSSESSIONS.

When Mr. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, in 1823, wrote his letter to Gen. ALEXANDER SMYTHE, of Virginia, on the then incredible idea that this American Union would ever seek to possess or annex to it the islands of any sea, how amazed would that statesman have been had the curtain of the future been suddenly raised, and he had seen how coolly and flippantly the politicians and newspapers of the country would in thirty years discuss the propriety, not of having insular territories at all, but of forthwith entering upon the island territories of a Power in amity with us to which we had taken a fancy; as if, in the language of a Spanish representative, "the world of Columbus were our own exclusive property." Yet so it is; and Congress and the public journals are busy in settling the question whether it is time for us to acquire Cuba in the Atlantic, (Porto Rico is not yet mentioned,) and the Sandwich Islands in the Pacific ocean. These brief remarks were prompted at this moment by the annexed letter, which we find in the Journal of Commerce—a letter too full of good and grave suggestions to be passed by, but which could not be inserted without a word or two of explanation. The special mission referred to by the writer is in allusion to a statement lately circulated in the public papers, and generally credited, that the American Government proposes to send to Spain two Commissioners (Messrs. DALLAS, of Philadelphia, and HOWELL COBB, of Georgia) to treat for a transfer of Cuba to the United States.

WASHINGTON, (THURSDAY,) JUNE 8, 1854.

We may expect a great debate upon the subject of the special mission to Spain, when it shall be brought before Congress. The object of the commission is well understood, but still an explanation of it will be demanded by Congress, and it cannot be refused. It is understood that the object is to lay before the Spanish Government, in a plain and explicit manner, the views and policy of the United States in regard to Cuba; to show that its acquisition by the United States is a political and commercial necessity; and that it is necessary for the welfare both of Spain and the United States, for the preservation of peace between the two countries, and for the suppression of lawless enterprises of our own citizens, in connection with Spanish subjects, against Cuba. * * *

With the United States there is no other question on the subject than in regard to time and conditions. It might be deferred almost indefinitely, with advantage to the United States, if the Spanish Government was so far progressive in its policy as to adapt itself to the condition of things. The Southern people would gladly suffer Cuba to remain as she is, a Spanish slave colony, so long as it can be done with safety to their own domestic interests. The Southern States are not to be benefited by the acquisition; for they will destroy the value of the sugar lands in Texas, Florida, and Louisiana, and also drain off, by superior advantages of soil and climate, the slave labor, the capital, and the enterprise from the Southern States. It will be a question with Congress whether the time has arrived when it is to be deemed necessary for our interests to acquire Cuba. This would be a question, even independently of any national feeling in regard to slavery in the island, and even if the question were left to the sole decision of the slaveholding States of the Union.

The condition of the Cuban population is of itself a matter to be considered by the South as well as the North, if annexation is to follow acquisition. The white population is five hundred thousand; the number of free negroes two hundred thousand; the number of *Bozales* (Africans held illegally in a condition of slavery, and who, under the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the *Amistad* case, would be free, and will be made free under the recent Spanish edicts) is one hundred and eighty thousand; the number of slaves is two hundred and fifty thousand. Thus, if we annex the island, we take it with two hundred and fifty thousand slaves and four hundred and eighty thousand free blacks. Of the *Bozales* most are males in middle life, and very ferocious and savage, being native Africans. They will be troublesome as fellow-citizens, and rather out of place in this enlightened republic. Of the free negroes, some have been free for a long time, were born free, and have accumulated property, and are intelligent and civilized, and to some extent educated. These men would be dangerous associates for their compatriots, the *Bozales*; for they would furnish them with means and prompt them to action. Supposing that we annexed Cuba as a slave State, what shall be done with the nearly half a million of free negroes? Shall we appeal to the principle of squatter sovereignty for the settlement of this question? If so, the Creoles will be the only acknowledged citizens; and they will vote out every one else from citizenship, and especially the old Royalist Spaniards, and by a simple decree constitute the half million of free negroes their own slave property, and call upon the United States Government to maintain their right to property in these men, and to furnish armies and navies and munitions of war and money, to the extent of millions not to be counted, to subject these negroes to their quiet possession.

Again, shall it be a provision of the treaty of purchase that the free negroes shall remain free? Nothing but a war of races, added to servile insurrections, will be the consequence of our acquisition of the island and the removal of the restraint of Spanish rule.

There is still another question. Shall we provide in the treaty of cession or otherwise for the deportation of the half million of free blacks to Africa? Will they go peaceably? How much would it cost? Are they to be there provided for by the bounty of this Union, or left to starvation, in their own quarrels? Suppose the purchase of the island, and the deportation of the free negroes, and adequate provision for them should amount to only four hundred millions, (which is much within the mark,) will not the amount be an incubance upon the Treasury quite enough to bankrupt it and destroy the credit of the Federal Government?

In fine, would the acquisition and annexation of Cuba, at the expense of a war, at the expense of a costly purchase, at the hazard of civil and servile war in Cuba, be advantageous to the Union, even if we could accomplish the object without any sectional agitation and trouble at home?

These are only a few of the considerations that are commended to Congress when the Cuban question shall come up.

EX-GOVERNOR RAMSEY IN MINNESOTA.—On the recent return of Ex-Governor RAMSEY to his home in Minnesota, after an absence of several months, his fellow-citizens met him almost before he had crossed his domestic threshold, tending him in the warmest and most hearty manner a welcome home. An impromptu though sumptuous banquet was got up in his honor at the American House in St. Paul. A number of speeches were delivered and toasts drank, in several of which marked allusion was made to the complete triumph Mr. RAMSEY had received at the hands of the Senate of the United States over the false and injurious imputations and allegations made against him and his administration of public trusts whilst Governor of the Territory. The following is one of the toasts:

"Our returned fellow-citizen, ALEXANDER RAMSEY: In the late prosecution to which his character, motives, and actions have been subjected he has shown his warmest sympathy in the triumph of justice which has been awarded him by his countrymen; for his tried, faithful, and wise service to Minnesota he has our highest respect and fullest confidence; and for his kind and courteous relations as an exemplary citizen and true friend he merits and receives our warmest esteem."

AMERICAN TREATY WITH JAPAN.

We find in the Singapore (India) Free Press of the 14th April the subjoined interesting account, copied from a Hong-Kong paper, of the successful negotiations of Commodore PERRY with the Japanese Government for the opening of its ports to the commerce of the United States. This important intelligence is confirmed by late advices from England and by the Hong-Kong correspondence of the New York Commercial Advertiser.

The precise terms of the Treaty, which was to have been ratified by Japan on the 27th April, are not yet known. It is said, however, to be placed beyond a doubt that free intercourse between the two countries is fully opened, and that two ports, with a coal depot and a supply of coals for the United States steamers, have been conceded; also, that kind treatment and an abundant supply of water and provisions are secured to all Americans who may visit any part of the Japanese coast.

The ports conceded are Cimon, in Nippon, near Cape Yzu, and Hakatam, on the island, and in the Straits of Matsmai; but it is agreed that, should the report of the naval officers sent to survey these places be unsatisfactory, other ports in the same island will be selected in their stead.

The railroad and electric telegraph taken by the squadron to Japan were in successful operation when the frigate *Susquehanna*, which conveyed the news to Hong-Kong, left Jeddo on the 25th of March.

The Japanese utterly denied having made any treaty with the Russian Government.

The Editor of the Commercial Advertiser states that he has seen other correspondence which confirms this intelligence, and adds that "the utmost courtesy was shown in Japan by the officials and by the people. The officers of the squadron ranged freely about the country, the inhabitants on every side evincing great interest and curiosity, but no fear, and in no instance disrespect." Also, that Commodore PERRY "proposed to extend the conceded privileges to other nations, but the suggestion was negatived by the Japanese." This correspondence enumerates the following articles as likely to be in demand for Japan:

Woolens of every description; preferable colors, red, blue, and yellow. Hardware, including tools of all kinds, tin plates, stores, &c. Glassware; window, plate and cut. Fine cottons of fine texture and high color. Rustling, heavy cotton goods, fire arms, cloths, leather of bright colors, &c. From the Japanese we can procure silver, gold, and copper of unusual purity; tea and silk, the latter, however, of an inferior quality.

FROM THE FRIEND OF CHINA OF APRIL 5.

The return to Hong-Kong on Sunday of the United States steamship *Susquehanna*, Capt. BUCHANAN, has placed us in possession of further particulars of the United States and Russian expeditions to Japan. The American fleet, it will be remembered, left this harbor on the morning of the 14th of January last. On the 7th of February the steamers left Looschoo, the sailing vessels having left that place about a week before. On the 12th the *Susquehanna*, bearing the flag of Commodore PERRY, anchored in a bay a little to the south of Jeddo, where she found the frigates *Macedonian* and *Vandalia*, and the storeship *Lexington* in sight, beating in. (The *Southampton*, storeship, was afterwards found to have arrived in the Bay of Jeddo on the same day.) The *Macedonian* and *Lexington* got on a reef, but a tug from one of the steamers, all three of which arrived together, placed her in deep water the same afternoon. She is not supposed to have received any material injury.

On the 13th February the steam frigates *Susquehanna*, *Mississippi*, and *Powhatan*, with the *Macedonian* and *Lexington* in tow, steamed up to within twenty miles of Jeddo, bringing up in a place which on the previous visit was designated the "American Anchorage." The whole of the surrounding country, including a high volcanic peak called *Fudai Jamma*, was found covered with snow; the thermometer was down to 30°, and water froze on the docks.

On the 18th February Capt. PERRY shifted his flag to the *Powhatan*, on board of which vessel negotiations commenced, the *Vandalia* proceeding to Uraga, where it was intended an interview between the respective Commissioners should take place. A succession of gales prevented the vessels from proceeding further up the bay until the 24th, on which day the squadron got under way and ran up off a large town called Kanagawa, from twelve to fifteen miles from Jeddo by water, nine only by land. The houses of Jeddo were plainly enough visible from the mast-heads, and boats from the squadron sounded up to within three miles of the wharves. The *Vandalia*'s visit to Uraga was rendered unnecessary, it being determined, in his absence, to have the cannibal-house erected at a small fishing village called To-ko-ha-ma, not far from the town off which the squadron had anchored.

On the first of March his Excellency YETZIMOTO, Deputy Governor of Uraga, and some other high officers, were entertained on board the *Susquehanna*. The bearing of these officials is said to have been frank and friendly in the extreme. Toasts were drunk and speeches made, interpretation being rendered by means of intermediate Dutch; and, by all that could be ascertained from the temper of the guests, there was every reason to believe that the reply of the Emperor of Japan to the letter from the President of the United States would be as favorable as might reasonably be expected.

At first it was understood that the report circulated by the Russians of the death of the Emperor was altogether without foundation. From subsequent inquiry, however, the report was found to be true; though no attempt was made to postpone negotiations on mortuary account, as the Russians asserted would be the case; an excuse, there is some reason to believe, that had effect so far as they (the Russians) were concerned, the Japanese denying most positively that any treaty had been made with them. The Emperor of Japan was eighty-three years of age when he died. His Majesty's son has been proclaimed his successor, though he is not yet crowned.

The sloop *Saratoga* arrived in the Bay of Jeddo on the 4th of March, and was ordered to prepare for a trip to the Sandwich Islands, by which route, thence to Panama, his Excellency the Commodore announced his determination to forward the earliest report of the result of his negotiations. Early in March an interpreter arrived direct from Jeddo, and on the 5th visited the flag-ship. He is said to have been able to converse quite fluently in both Dutch and English, and could read and write our language with facility. He spoke freely of the Emperor, his master, and of his Majesty's willingness to accord commercial advantages to foreign nations. Of coal he said there was plenty, which should be brought from the mines to a depot to be selected by the Americans. This interpreter had only recently returned from Nangasacki, where he said the Russians were point blank refused any promise of a treaty.

On the 8th of March, at noon, under an ambassador's salute from one of the ships, Com. Perry landed for his promised interview with the Imperial Japanese Commissioners. His Excellency's barge was accompanied by boats from the various vessels of the squadron to the number of twenty-eight; and, besides the boats' crews, four hundred seamen and marines were conveyed to the shore to form his Excellency's escort. The weather was magnificent, and the landing was effected most successfully. Two other salutes, one for the Emperor, another for the Commissioners, were fired by the boat squadron after his Excellency was on shore.

The result of this first interview may only be generalized into the report that the disposition evinced was most favorable to American wishes. Other meetings were determined on, and a warehouse was erected for the special reception of presents for the Emperor, Empress, and Court, which were landed on the morning of the 13th. From the size of the building prepared to receive these

presents the Japanese appeared to have expected a bulky, if not a more valuable assortment. A plot of ground was cleared out for laying down the miniature railroad, and a line was arranged for working the electric telegraph; of both of which, as forming part of the intended presents to the Japanese Court, our readers will no doubt already have heard.

MARCH 15, 1854.—A red letter day in the annals of Japan; saw the Emperor's reply to the President's requests under personal on board the flag-ship; and on the 17th Com. Perry again landed for his second interview with the four Commissioners appointed to negotiate a commercial treaty. The names and rank of these officers are said to be as follows:

First Commissioner, his Highness the Prince Counsellor Hayashi.
Second Commissioner, Prince Ido of Tausima.
Third Commissioner, Prince Irida of Mina-sa-ki.
Fourth Commissioner, his Excellency U-d-na, an assistant in the Board of Revenue.

The names of the Japanese interpreters of the respective Legations are Mr. Matsukata Michi-to-ro and Dr. Samuel Wells Williams.

MARCH 20.—The storeship *Supply* arrived from Shanghai, conveying to Com. Perry the report left by the *Vostok* of the successes in Japan of the Russian Admiral; but the period of a year fixed by the Russians for the opening of Japan to the world was said to be a figment of Russian imagination. The Japanese would only admit that the Russians had said they would be back in a year.

On the morning of the 24th March Com. Perry had his third interview with the Japanese Commissioners, a few days before having dispatched the *Vandalia* and *Southampton* to examine the harbor of Shodima, about seventy miles south of Jeddo, one of the places indicated by the Japanese as fitting for a factory.

Were we to give in this journal as certain fact the whole of what we have heard as having been effected by Com. Perry in his negotiations it would speak ill for American diplomacy in having allowed so much to transpire, without infringing any reasonable requirement, however, we are permitted to say that the following detail is not far from a correct summary of the principal advantages:

Two ports are given to trade, Matsmai, in Yezo, and Shodima, before mentioned; and, in addition to these places with trading residents, another location is promised contiguous to the coal country. At the first Japanese Commissioners spoke of one year for the coal station and five for the trading places, as periods within which they promised the warm endeavor of their Government to prepare the people for the new regulations. The laws of the Empire, they said, were very strict against trading of any kind, except at Nangasacki with the Dutch. To these lengthy periods, however, his Excellency Com. Perry temperately though firmly objected, insisting on the coal depot at once and trading ports within a year.

As regards the terms of treaty, the best of that with China is said to form the leading feature. This, we think, is to be regretted. Ports in Japan, as well as in China, should be as free as the harbor of Hong-Kong, where duty on our island's chief production, granite, is collected by the Government from the stone-quarry farmer. Com. Perry, it is said, offered to embody a clause in the treaty for participation by all the world in the advantages he desired; but to this proposition the Japanese Commissioners demurred, expressing, however, a willingness to make separate treaties on similar terms with any other nations who might seek them in a peaceful manner. Directly the treaty is concluded, Capt. Adams, in the *Saratoga*, will leave with despatches; but, as it is said Com. Perry intends to remain on the Japanese coast for at least two or three months, we presume his Excellency is prudently determined upon doing what is to be done in a quiet, steady manner, and without any unnecessary haste.

The miniature railway and five miles of magnetic telegraph created great astonishment. Arranged with Japanese characters, there was much amusement among the natives at the extremes of the line at the rapidity had ease with which a conversation could be carried on, additional wires being ordered to be prepared immediately, so that they might carry the communication right up to the capital. The railway was taken round a circuit of some fifty yards in diameter, or nearly a tenth of a mile in length. The locomotive, with its tender and car, was made to travel at the rate of forty miles an hour. Of course the action of these machines was only intended as a small exhibition of Western science. The curiosity of the Japanese appears to have been highly excited by the beautiful symmetry of the *Macedonian*, and artisans were engaged in measuring her, as they said, for the purpose of building her counterpart.

One of the marines of the *Mississippi* dying while the squadron was lying in the Bay of Jeddo, an occasion was given to apply for ground for a cemetery. Sufficient space for ten interments being allotted, the marine was buried with all the honors of war.

In conclusion, we have only to say that the *Susquehanna* reports her crew and those of the rest of the squadron as in excellent health and fine spirits. She was eight days on the run from Jeddo to this port.

FROM THE NEW YORK COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER.

At the present time the opening of channels of commerce with such a vast empire is specially important, inasmuch as the continued disturbances in China threaten to thwart enterprise in that direction. The supply of tea thence is already falling off, and a further deficiency is expected, for the civil war is weakening the resource as well as blemishing the energies of the Chinese; so that the opening of Japan to American commerce is exceedingly opportune. It is worthy of note, too, that this concession is made to the United States only, which fact is expressive of the wisdom with which Commodore PERRY has executed his delicate but important mission, which is very apparent, also, from the copious narratives of his proceedings on his second visit supplied by the China papers.

The barrier to intercourse with Japan is broken down, without the lifting of a sword or the firing of a hostile gun. Nor is the formal treaty the only advantage gained by this expedition. The two nations have already learned much of each other's characteristics, and there is every evidence that the Japanese are disposed to place confidence in their new acquaintances, and to learn all they can from them. In this respect they differ considerably from the Chinese, whose first intercourse with European nations was marked by contempt for European inventions and productions. The accounts furnished from the expedition show that the Japanese rank higher in intellect and in enterprise than the Chinese. We find them appreciating the railway, and marvelling at the telegraph, and even making diligent inquiry respecting Ericsson's electric engine, of which they had heard. The list of presents and the mode of their reception is worth quoting:

Four days after the interview the presents were interchanged, time having been required to erect places for their reception. Those for the Emperor consisted of, among other things, a railway with steam engine; an electric telegraph; a surf boat; a life boat; a printing press; a fine longnet; a set of Audubon's American Ornithology, splendidly bound; plates of American Indians; maps of different States of America; agricultural implements, with all the modern improvements; a piece of cloth; a bale of cotton; a stove; rifles, pistols, and swords; champagne, cordials, and American whiskey. And for the Empress, (presuming there is one,) a telescope; a longnet in a gilded case; a lady's toilet box, glass; a scarlet velvet dress; a changeable silk dress; a flowered; a splendid robe; Audubon's illustrated works; a handsome set of china; a mantelpiece clock; a parlor stove; a box of fine wines; a box of perfumery; a box of fancy soaps. Among the other presents, perhaps the one most valued was a copy of Webster's Complete Dictionary to the Imperial interpreter. To the high officers were given books, rifles, pistols, swords, wines, cloths, maps, stoves, clocks, and cordials, the last of which they fully appreciated; and, as regards clocks, when it was proposed to bring an engineer from ship-board to set them going, the Japanese said there was no occasion for that, for they had clockmakers in Yedo who understood them perfectly.

Whatever may be thought of some of the other presents, the railway and telegraph, at which the world at the time was disposed to laugh, were happy hits. The rail is only about three hundred yards in all; but, being formed in a circle, the carriage can be driven at the rate of forty

* Matsmai, a large town, with 50,000 inhabitants, situated on a bay at the southwest point of the Island of Leso. Its harbor is constantly filled with merchant vessels, and it has a flourishing trade.—*Mail* *Drum*.

miles or more. Just at first the Japanese were chary of venturing into the car, but after a single trial there was much good humored competition for places. The telegraph must have astonished them; but they will speedily understand it, and may possibly by this time be laying down wires for themselves.

The chaplain of the expedition, the Rev. Mr. BITTINGER, made several excursions among the villages and corn-fields, the latter of which he found in high cultivation. The houses were generally thatched, the better ones tiled, and had enclosed yards and gardens. The narrator adds:

The same gentleman, finding the people neither unfriendly nor indisposed to receive him, and having obtained leave to go on shore, determined to visit two large cities some miles off, called Kanagawa and Kasaco, and with that view crossed an arm of the bay, which shortened the distance by several miles. He then proceeded through Kanagawa, supposed to contain from one to two hundred thousand inhabitants, and, from the immense crowds that poured out everywhere to see the stranger, there can be no doubt of the population being very great. The crowds, however, caused no inconvenience or impediment, for as a wary and prudent man, the Japanese chaplain, who accompanied Mr. Bittinger, the people cleared a passage; and afterwards, a messenger having been sent forward for the purpose, the people packed themselves at the sides of the houses, and left the centre of the streets clear for the stranger. He entered some of the houses, which he found primitive in their furniture and arrangements, but, compared with other Oriental dwellings of the same class, neat, clean, and comfortable. In some of them he observed clocks of Japanese manufacture.

He also visited several temples, which, though smaller than in China, have more gilding on their walls and ornaments on their idols, and generally are in better order. The priests as well as the people were distinguished for their courtesy. The cities visited were not only very extensive, (estimated to be six miles long,) but with wide well formed streets. Kasaco is some fifteen to twenty miles distant, by land, from the ships; and Mr. Bittinger, who had been previously to some extent acquainted with the place, as he was returning a Japanese officer put into his hands an order from the commodore for all officers to return on board, and shortly afterwards a courier, mounted on a splendid black horse, delivered a similar despatch, and, finding it was understood and acted on, turned round and galloped back again to report the approach of the American officer, who concluded his journey by torch-light, and found on his arrival that every thing that had occurred had been noted, even the number of buttons on his coat being recorded.

One officer contrived to get up to Jeddo, or sufficiently near it to inform himself that there is five fathoms depth of water close up to the city. It was expected that when the treaty was signed permission would be given to the strangers to visit the capital. Of the two ports, Matsmai and Osaka, the opening of which the treaty provides for, the Hong Kong Register gives a brief account. Matsmai is the chief city of the island Yezo, and is situated at the south end of the island, near the Straits of Sangar, between Yezo and Nippon. Osaka is a capital in Nippon, or Japan proper, and is situated on the western side, about half way between Jeddo, the capital, and Nagasaki, the Dutch port of trade. A correspondent of the China Mail gives the following account of the burial of one of the sailors of the American squadron:

One of the standing opinions about the Japanese destined to be thrown down by Commodore Perry has been that they were invincibly intolerant of Christianity. Indeed, this is a very common and also a very erroneous conclusion. To the emblem of the cross they still object, but the story of the expelled Portuguese, that every Christian landing at Japan was required to trample on it, or on a representation of the Virgin and Saviour, must, if true, have been almost entirely confined to themselves and their co-faithful. More recent writers, who have been able to deny that such is now the custom, tell us the "practice of religious rites is prohibited by irrevocable Japanese laws;" but the following narrative of the funeral of a marine of the United States squadron shows that there is as little foundation for the one statement as for the other.

On the 9th of March, the day following the first meeting between Com. Perry and the Imperial Commissioner from Jeddo to negotiate the terms of a commercial treaty, a soldier and a Christian burial was given to a marine, Robert Williams, who had died a few days before on board the steamer *Mississippi*. The party detailed for this purpose consisted of several officers, one of them the chaplain in his gown, an escort of eight marines in charge of a corporal, and four marines as bearers of the corpse. Two boats left the ship, one containing the officers and the other the marines. Upon reaching the shore, the party was met by several Japanese officials, ready to conduct them to the grave. The escort landed first, and received the body with the usual honors. The little procession was then formed; first the escort, followed by the music (drum and file); next the body, borne on the shoulders of the marines; and last the chaplain, who had the other officers, and a few sailors from the boats bringing up the rear. In this order, with the music playing a dead march, the party moved to the grave, winding through the streets of a village a distance of nearly half a mile. On either side of the road, and on the steep rising hills, at the foot of one of which the grave had been made, thousands of people, men, women, and children, could be seen, all manifesting eager curiosity.

I could but think, as we passed along, how strange not only the procession, but each of us individually must appear to that eager host, one of whom was a native, had ever before looked upon the face of a stranger from a foreign country; and yet there was no undue noise or apparent alarm on the part of any of them—only intense interest in observing what was passing before them. As we neared the grave, which occupied a very pretty spot, the voice of the choir was heard: "I am the resurrection and the life, saith the Lord; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die."

As we gathered around the grave, and the reading of the burial service proceeded, the scene was one of unusual interest; for the time and place and the circumstances all conspired to make it, as an incident, honorable to our short sojourn in a land where for centuries, it is said, the symbol of our religion has been trodden under foot. The church burial service ended, the escort fired three volleys over the grave. It was expected that on this there would be some commotion among the crowd, but it not only did not, but at the first discharge that for a moment there was a slight movement as of surprise, and then all were again quiet and attentive observers.

Having now committed to the earth, with all due honor, the remains of our shipmate, the procession was returned, and, with music to the front, again passed through the village and the thousands of spectators to our boats on the beach. Here we took leave of the officials, who throughout the entire ceremony had conducted themselves with great propriety, and extended to us every civility and respect. The ship, passed with the consciousness of not only having seen, but having assisted in giving such honors, in such a place, to a deceased brother.

The writers in the China papers take exception to one feature of this negotiation, viz. that the Japanese refused to admit into the proposed treaty a clause granting to all other countries the same privileges as those granted to the United States. It is to the honor of the Administration that sent out the expedition, and to the Ambassador himself, that the liberal proposition was made by the United States. The refusal, however, is not to be wondered at. The Japanese may not deem it expedient to admit at one time all the nations of the earth to such intercourse. The treaty with the United States is but an experiment, and may possibly be regarded by the Japanese Government as a hazardous experiment, considering the long years of seclusion in which the people have dwelt; but that ultimately other nations will be admitted to the same privileges cannot reasonably be doubted. The superannuated pressure once removed, the germ of popular enterprise will spring up and grow until it will connect itself with every commercial Power.

And how vastly superior, how much nobler, are such conquests and triumphs than those of the bayonet and the cannon! How much more worthy of the Government of the United States is such an expedition, with such results, than the contemplated quarrel with Spain as a pretext for the acquisition of Cuba! It will stand immovably to the credit of Mr. FILLMORE's Administration that at no sacrifice of human life, and by no violation of the laws of national comity, an immense Empire has been unseparated, and the light of commerce, of civilization, and of Christianity admitted into its long-sealed chambers. And what a future is opened to Japan and to the world! How mighty events now crowd upon us! China undergoing a revolution, preparatory to an entire change of institutions and policy, and her people already emigrating by thousands! Japan abandoning non-intercourse and opening her ports with good will to the youngest among nations! France and England in alliance, and was about to despatch the whole of Europe! Other events of scarcely less importance are already looming up in the distance. Verily the world, and not just this nation or that only, is being revolutionized.

The Charter Election yesterday in Georgetown resulted in the rejection of the new Charter—Yeas 50, Nays 269.

INTERESTING FROM HAVANA.

The New Orleans papers have files of the *Gaceta de la Habana* to the 3d instant. The principal item of interest (says the *Courier*) is a proclamation issued by the Captain General, and dated on the 20th May, in which he again takes occasion to stigmatize the report relative to an intended emancipation of the slaves as false and calumnious. He tells the owners of slaves that they stand in no danger of losing their property, and calls on the various local authorities to punish the authors or propagators of the reports. He even indirectly denounces abolitionism, and seems to have little respect for the African character, but intimates his intention to suppress the slave trade. The following is a translation of the proclamation:

BUREAU OF THE CAPTAIN GENERAL.

HAVANA, MAY 30, 1854.

CIRCULAR NO. 40.—The secret and constant enemies of the Spanish name, who lose no opportunity of exciting by their calumnies discontent and dissension among the inhabitants of Cuba, have for some time propagated, with this design, the most absurd and ridiculous statements touching the supposed abolition schemes of the Government; and by distorting from their true meaning certain phrases and expressions contained in official documents, and by supposing secret treaties and compromises which have never existed, and never could have existed, and never can exist, they have succeeded in diffusing some alarm among simple-minded and suspicious persons.

It becomes, therefore, your duty, while punctually obeying the orders of the Queen, with respect to the modified instructions I now transmit to you, not only to repress and chastise with a strong arm the propagators of these calumnious and seditious reports, but to inspire confidence and security among the respectable inhabitants of the district confided to your care. Let every one understand that the indications of the African slave trade seek in vain to induce them to make common cause with them; that whatever measures her Majesty may have required you to enforce for the purpose of thwarting their fraudulent schemes have reference to the object alone, and are intended to secure to slave owners the legitimate and tranquil possession of their property, in which no one will disturb them either at this time or at any other period; since from private wealth, which is verified and registered in all countries, down national riches and prosperity, the profit and glory of the State, reflected likewise upon those who govern, must necessarily result.

Make them comprehend that neither her Majesty's Government nor its representatives in Cuba can ever become the instrument of foreign interests of any kind, and that they are well aware of the true relations of this country, so as to make them accord with the sacred fulfillment of treaties, and to take upon it the power and reason necessary to protect itself from an exaggerated philanthropy, from which they are as far removed as from the barbarism of the slave traders. The Government of her Majesty well knows that this unfortunate race, which understand liberty merely as license, for the honor of humanity ought not to be freed from the soil on which they were born; but that, having been placed in the midst of civilized men, protected by religion and by the salutary laws of our fathers in their so-called slavery, they are a thousand-fold happier than other European classes which enjoy the name of freedom alone.

It is not merely the sense of public or private interest, but that of humanity which impels her Majesty to enact measures for securing the maintenance, the prosperity, and increase of slavery. You will carry them out with temperance and kindness, but without vacillation or doubt. In them lie the germs of true progress and prosperity, and wealth and power to the land which they were born; but that, having been placed in the midst of civilized men, protected by religion and by the salutary laws of our fathers in their so-called slavery, they are a thousand-fold happier than other European classes which enjoy the name of freedom alone.

Do not fail to inculcate these views in the minds of all, and let them remain tranquil beneath the paternal eye of the Government, which has elevated this island to a point of wealth and prosperity that has excited the envy and aversion of powerful nations—of a Government which feels itself strong enough to break through the meshes of an intriguing and venal perfidy, as well as the armaments of the filibusters, which perhaps at this moment are preparing for our troops and for the loyal Cubans another opportunity of ending their names in the service of the Queen and the country.

THE MARQUIS DE PEZUELA.
To the Governors and Lieutenant Governors of the Island.

In remarking upon this proclamation the New Orleans *Bees* says that it "indicates gross exaggeration on the part of those who have labored so earnestly to prove that emancipation in Cuba was the settled policy of the Government. Mr. CLAYTON may be right after all in maintaining the utter absurdity of these charges."

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

The Union says that we forgot to tell our readers that the resolutions pending in the Legislature of New Hampshire condemnatory of the repeal of the Missouri Compromise were introduced by a Whig. We do not know whether their author is a Whig or a Democrat. But if our neighbor means to intimate that the resolves will receive no support from Democrats, we think he is mistaken. He has, "unintentionally of course," overlooked some of the "little details" of a preliminary discussion touching these resolutions which appeared in the Boston Traveller of Saturday. We now copy it for his benefit, viz:

NEW HAMPSHIRE.—The election of Senators of the United States by the New Hampshire Legislature has been postponed to the 16th instant. The postponement signifies the final defeat of the Nebraska party. That party opposed the postponement; but it was carried by four majority, four or five Democrats voting with the majority. A series of resolutions offered by Mr. Flanders, of Manchester, were adopted for consideration on Friday. These resolutions condemned the Nebraska measure, &c. On the opening of the session on Friday, before the resolutions were taken up, Mr. DODGE moved that Tuesday next be assigned for election of Senators of the United States. Mr. EASTMAN moved to substitute Friday, the 16th. There was a discussion upon the merits of Mr. Flanders's resolutions, and upon the question upon which it is well understood the election of Senators will turn. Mr. EASTMAN said he had supported the election of President PIERCE, and approved of the principles of his inaugural; but the Nebraska scheme, he was sorry to say, had changed the complexion of the former professions of the President. He wanted time to make up his mind as to his duty in the emergency. Mr. DODGE urged speedy action. Mr. CLARK favored delay. Mr. TAPPAN urged time for the fullest deliberation on this important subject. He had hoped the President's course would have been such as to secure the people of his native State, and the people at large. When his inaugural was delivered, Mr. Tappan said, he thought it one of which he was willing to wait the result of experiment; but when he seized the favorable moment for the purpose of repealing a sacred compromise, its momentary broken was convulsed by the act of the Administration; when the pledge made in the inaugural of the country was broken, then he (Mr. T.) believed, and the people also believed, that the President had acted in subversion of his avowed principles, &c. The debate was continued with some warmth for three hours.

STREET PREACHING AND SUNDAY RIOTS.—The City Recorder, in his charge to the Grand Jury on Tuesday, enjoined upon them the necessity of adopting measures to check the increasing tendency to disturb the peace of the Lord's Day. There is no doubt that assemblies such as have been gathered for weeks past in the Park and elsewhere are illegal. The pretext of the permissibility of street preaching cannot, in the legitimate acceptance of the word, be urged in favor of continued toleration of these nuisances. There is no preaching. The appeals of the speakers are directly to the passions of their hearers, and are intended and calculated to produce fighting and bloodshed. Those who accompany them go prepared to fight, and blows succeed the first manifestation of disapprobation from any of the crowd. The so-called "preacher" is, in fact, the mouthpiece of a gang of rowdies, who, through him, challenge the Irish to a fight. The Irish are mercenary and pugnacious enough without such provocation; and we anticipate, unless decided preventive measures are taken, that the authorities of the city will have to answer one of these days for terrible scenes of bloodshed. New York and Brooklyn are disgraced in the eyes of the country and of the world by such profanation of the sanctity of the Sabbath, and the entire respectable community will stand by those officers who shall strive to maintain the laws for its observance.—*N. Y. Journal of Commerce*.

THE NEBRASKA ACT.

We think that no intelligent man whose judgment is unwarp by personal or political interest, or supposed sectional obligations, can read the subjoined letter from a country gentleman in Virginia without being struck with the very sensible and just view it takes of the character and consequences of the Nebraska act. Besides what we give of the letter, the writer goes into a free examination of the motives of the originators and leading supporters of the bill; but, besides an habitual avoidance of the *argumentum ad hominem*, we do not think that the writer has hit the *rationale* of its origin with precision.

BUCKINGHAM COUNTY, (VA.) JUNE 10, 1854.

GENTLEMEN: You will receive herewith my subscription to the *Intelligencer* for the last year. Permit me to add that I fully approve your course in relation to the bill for the organization of governments for Nebraska, &c. As a Southern man I should rejoice at the repeal of the Missouri compromise had the action of Congress grown out of a change of sentiment in the free States. I should value it more as an evidence of a sounder state of sentiment in that section than as any substantial good to be gained by permitting slavery to exist where it was forbidden. I see nothing in this measure which promises security to the South. The body which has repealed this act may again revive it, probably with increased excitement; it is a new handle furnished the abolitionists; their cry will be *repeal of*